

Thames is currently a member of the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association, the South Carolina Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the Coaches of Women's Sports and the National Basketball Coaches Association.

He is a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Manning, where he serves as a Junior Department Sunday School Teacher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Coach John Franklin Thames for his remarkable career at Manning High School. He has set a tremendous example both on and off the court. It is my honor to pay tribute to such a distinguished Southern gentleman who, I believe, has earned the gratitude of his community, his state and his nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DUNEDIN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Dunedin High School, which first opened its doors in 1961. That year, 767 students and 44 teachers walked the halls for the first time. Half a century later the school serves more than twice that number of students, working to prepare them for their future while creating an environment that encourages students to explore their potential.

From the beginning, the school embraced the rich Scottish traditions that have characterized the city of Dunedin since its founding in 1870. The school selected a Falcon as the mascot, harkening back to the sport of falconry, a favorite Scottish pastime consisting of training and hunting with falcons. However, the Dunedin Highlander Marching Band is perhaps the most unique aspect of the school. This band not only wears the Dress Stewart Tartan plaid as their uniform, they are one of the few high school bands in the country that features bagpipes.

Since its establishment, Dunedin High School has sought to foster academic achievement, community pride and school spirit. Over the years, the students at the school have won numerous awards and state championships for academic, athletic and extracurricular activities. The students are not the school's only source of pride, as the dedicated teachers and administrative staff also have an award winning tradition, receiving many state and national awards for the high-quality education they provide.

Students who have graduated from Dunedin have gone on to achieve great success, with many staying in the area to raise their children and enrich the local community. This community support extends to the high school, with volunteers putting in over 28,000 hours at Dunedin High School last year alone. Notable alumni include local politicians, famous musicians, professional athletes, and Hollywood actors and directors.

I am honored to represent the students, teachers, and faculty who currently attend Dunedin High School as well as many of those that have enriched this public school for the last 50 years. I ask my colleagues to join

with me today in recognizing this important milestone and to wish the school continued success in the future.

REMEMBERING BROOKE TUTTLE

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to remember the exceptional legacy of service of Brooke Tuttle from my hometown of Columbus, Indiana.

Mr. Tuttle was born in Hicksville, Ohio, and received a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Management from Ohio State University in 1957. The next year he married his wife Barbara, who would become his bride of 52 years. After serving as a Captain in the U.S. Army from 1957–1959, Brooke Tuttle joined Cummins, Inc., headquartered in Columbus, Indiana, and he later earned a Masters in Business Administration from Indiana University in 1964.

During his 29-year career with Cummins, Mr. Tuttle had various responsibilities including: General Manager of the Fleetguard filtration business; leading the \$700 million worldwide parts and services distribution business; opening distribution centers in Asia, Europe, and Central and South America; and serving as Executive Director of Public Policy.

Brooke Tuttle was deeply invested in his local community and was responsible for outstanding growth and prosperity. He served as President of the Columbus Economic Development Board in 1985, and after he retired from Cummins three years later, Mr. Tuttle continued as President of Economic Development. During his 22 years as president, he spearheaded the expansion of 260 existing companies and helped attract 52 new manufacturing and technology companies. As a result of his hard work and dedication to the Columbus community, Columbus gained 10,000 new manufacturing jobs and \$2.2 billion of new investment. Mr. Tuttle retired from the Columbus Economic Development Board in 2007.

After his retirement, Brooke Tuttle served as President of LHP Technologies and continued teaching Economics at Ivy Tech and Indiana University/Purdue University Columbus (IUPUC) as an adjunct professor for twenty years. IUPUC awarded him the "Excellence in Teaching" award in both 1990 and 2010. His accolades also included the Columbus Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award and the distinguished Sagamore of the Wabash Award.

Despite his demanding and successful career, Brooke Tuttle never forgot to give back. He served as president of Rotary Club International, the Columbus Foundation for Youth, and the Columbus Girls Club. He also served as a Moderator for Leadership Bartholomew County, a Big Brother, and as a basketball coach for the Boy's Club. He was also a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church and served on the IUPUC Board of Advisors, as well as the Visitor's Center Board.

My deepest and most heartfelt condolences go out to his beloved wife Barbara, daughter Katherine, son Jeffery, and his nephew Philip. In the midst of this difficult time be encouraged that the innumerable contributions of Brooke Tuttle will not soon be forgotten.

MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the House Republican Majority has done nothing to create jobs during the first session of the 112th Congress and now they're adding further injustice by hurting the millions of Americans who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. The Republican unemployment insurance proposal would cut in half the total number of weeks of benefits provided, harm those States with the highest rates of prolonged unemployment, and allow unemployment funds to be used for other purposes.

If Congress does not act on an extension of unemployment benefits, more than one million Americans could lose their unemployment benefits next year. This is compounded by the Economic Policy Institute's findings that the drop in consumer demand resulting from expired unemployment benefits would cost the U.S. economy more than half a million jobs. This is unacceptable. According to the Congressional Budget Office providing federal unemployment benefits is one of the most effective ways to help boost the economy—in fact, for every dollar of benefits, nearly \$2 in economic growth goes into the surrounding community. We should be working to support American families instead of causing more damage.

This bill should be about extending tax incentives and not pushing through the Majority's anti-environment agenda. This legislation includes a provision that bypasses the Keystone XL pipeline environmental review process by requiring the President to make a decision whether to approve the project within 60 days, even though a final route has not yet been proposed. It is responsible and critical that the Administration complete a proper assessment of the health risks and potential toxic contamination to the surrounding communities posed by the pipeline. Any effort to rush this process and compel a decision before a thorough review should not stand.

The Majority also is attempting to block air quality standards that have been thoroughly reviewed. The EPA is more than a decade late on issuing emissions standards requiring incinerators and boilers to reduce toxic air pollutants. While this would impact less than 1 percent of all boilers in the U.S., the Republican Majority is again attempting to nullify and delay the discharge limits. The pollutants from these emissions are linked to asthma, cancer, and heart disease, with the EPA estimating that the pollution reductions required by the rules would prevent up to 8,100 premature deaths, 52,000 asthma attacks, and 5,100 heart attacks each year and yield \$12 to \$30 in health benefits for every dollar spent to meet the standards. Such controversial provisions as the pipeline and the emissions standards have no place in tax legislation.

The issue of spectrum allocation should not be pushed through at the end of this session. While H.R. 3630 grants the Federal Communications Commission the authority to conduct incentive auctions, it does not ensure proper oversight of the process. This is especially

concerning as it relates to the public safety network. In the immediate aftermath of September 11th the importance of a strong and consistent public safety network was clear—first responders and emergency workers must be able to communicate in emergency and disaster situations. There is an insufficient amount of funds to research, build, and develop the public safety communications network as well as no requirement that the network providing for effective governance and national operability.

Finally, while I wholeheartedly believe that we must fix the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate Physician payment formula (or “doc fix”), we cannot do it on the backs of the hospitals. This bill would cut Medicare hospital outpatient reimbursement rates to equalize them with rates for services provided in physician offices. The proposal is misguided because it ignores the significant differences in cost structures between hospitals and physician offices, including the added costs hospitals incur for caring for the uninsured. All of these cuts are on top of \$155 billion in hospitals cuts from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and more than \$40 billion in cuts just created by sequestration. Hospitals simply cannot sustain these cuts and patient care will suffer if they are forced to do so.

RECOGNIZING JEFFERY POTTER
AS THE 2012 PRESIDENT OF THE
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on December 9, 2011 Jeffery Potter was duly elected to serve as President of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Jeff is the Vice-President of POTTER, a design firm in Dallas, Texas established in 1983. The firm has a broad portfolio but specifically seeks to advance school-house design in the region.

Jeff has been recognized by his peers through numerous regional AIA and trade awards for his design efforts and has juried design awards programs throughout the United States. Over the past 30 years Jeff has worked to elevate professional communications between his peers and to educate the public on the importance of design. Additionally, Jeff has worked with his colleagues to help combine traditional architectural journalism with social media and knowledge sharing to promote architecture in the 21st century.

As AIA President, Jeff has stated that he will focus on what he calls the “two spheres of influence”: nurturing a grassroots organization of architects and building on the strengths of the organization to promote a professional institute of design leaders.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Potter's accomplishments and ask that we acknowledge the important role that architects serve in our economy.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern about the United States Navy's future plan to home port a nuclear powered aircraft carrier aboard Naval Station Mayport. I, along with other members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation, have continued to question the duplication of resources to move the home port of a nuclear aircraft carrier, when current resources in Norfolk, Virginia, meet these needs.

This nation is in very challenging and uncharted waters with respect to the Department of Defense budget. Every effort must be made to ensure efficient and thoughtful planning, procurement, and budgeting is conducted to support our national security strategy for the 21st century. While the budget may be getting smaller, the request for power projection and forward presence around the globe to protect our interests and ensure a peaceful future is only growing. Sequestration and the very real possibility of cutting \$1 billion out of the Department of Defense budget over the next ten years puts our carrier force in jeopardy.

With these major defense cuts coming we are forced to address the proposal by the United States Navy to move a nuclear powered aircraft carrier to Naval Station Mayport. While strategic dispersal of forces is important, what is more important is that we maintain a capable level of forces to disperse.

An iconic symbol of American freedom domestically and abroad and a potential item for the sequestration chopping block, the aircraft carrier could face detrimental cuts to her fleet and capability because of a flawed defense strategy driven by looming budget cuts. The Navy has 11 nuclear-powered aircraft carriers in her fleet. While six remain deployed across the world, supporting operations, others are in rotation, utilized for training or remain in the shipyard for necessary maintenance.

On September 23, 2011, I wrote the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan Greenert arguing that at a time when the nation's historic fiscal challenges will require drastic cuts in federal spending, it is fiscally irresponsible and strategically unnecessary to build expensive and redundant nuclear-support infrastructure for CVN homeporting when there are more cost-effective alternatives to sustain Mayport's future as an operational base.

Admiral Greenert's response to the letter indicated concerns raised about the movement of an aircraft carrier to Mayport would be included in the Navy's strategic calculus. He stated that “the size of fiscal adjustments compels us to take a comprehensive strategic review, examining every program element, including the funding required to homeport a CVN in Mayport”.

The conference report for the National Defense Authorization Act, H.R. 1540, addressed the issue of military construction funding for a road improvement project at Mayport. It states, “The conferees determined that the Massey Avenue Corridor Improvements Project had merit to support requirements at the Naval Station Mayport, Florida, whether or not a nu-

clear powered aircraft carrier was home ported there.”

The proposed home port shift of an aircraft carrier, especially in this challenging budget environment, is unaffordable and unnecessary and I encourage this Congress and the United States Navy to carefully consider a better utilization of taxpayer resources to fund our men and women in uniform.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300–132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,051,286,197,149.79. We've added \$10,249,881,021,855.51 to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RETIREMENT OF MR. T.J. PREJEAN, JR.

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate T.J. Prejean, Jr. on his retirement from the Vermilion Parish Policy Jury.

For 31 years, T.J. proudly served District 13 as police juror, twice being the Vice President of the jury. Having attended 3,000 meetings during his career, T.J.'s commitment to ensuring the well-being of Vermilion Parish is clear.

Formerly an oil rig worker and farmer, T.J. began his service in office in 1980 and served eight consecutive terms. Opposition often stood in his way, but T.J.'s door-to-door campaign style reinforced his personal connection to the community.

During his time as police juror, T.J. made every effort to be accessible to the residents of District 13. He provided assistance during the several major hurricanes our region experienced in the past decade. In doing so, he demonstrated himself a concerned and dependable leader. His final police jury meeting will be Monday, December 19, 2011.

I offer my sincerest appreciation to T.J. Hebert for his dedication to the people of Vermilion Parish and congratulate him on his retirement. I am honored to be his representative in Congress.

BEN COLE

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, every town has a few heroes, and lucky is the man whose